

archival outlook

Remembering . . .

- **Prevail Archives at Virginia Tech**
- **Celebrating Fund Donors**
- **Sustaining Archives/Austin 2009 Proposals Wanted**



VIRGINIA
TECH

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Remembering . . . Within days of April 16, 2007, Virginia Tech students created a temporary memorial on the Blacksburg, Virginia, campus to honor 32 people killed by a student gunman that day. Placed in front of Burriss Hall, it consisted of 32 stones decorated with various mementos to remember each fallen Hokie. Virginia Tech Library Cataloger Debbie McAlexander took this photo of one of the stones (the same type used to erect buildings on campus) on April 19. Find out how the university

responded when it received more than 100,000 material offerings of condolence, in "Documenting Tragedy: The Prevail Archives at Virginia Tech" on page 6.

archival outlook

The Society of American Archivists serves the education and information needs of its members and provides leadership to help ensure the identification, preservation and use of the nation's historical record.

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Identity, Mission, and Character

The real meditation is the meditation on one's identity. *Ah, voilà une chose!!*

You try it. You try finding out why you're you and not somebody else.

And who in the blazes are you anyhow? *Ah, voilà une chose!*¹

In my past president's columns, as in this one, and in my upcoming presidential address in San Francisco, I have meditated on our professional identity as archivists. It is not a simple matter, of course, and I have tried for the most part to ask more questions than to assert answers. At the annual meeting that may change, but for this last column I remain in a pondering (and perhaps ponderous) mood.

One issue of significance that I have mentioned only in passing is whether we, both as a profession and as individual professionals, have a broad (societal) mission or a narrow (institutional) one. This is a question at least 80 years old. Hilary Jenkinson, writing in the 1920s, strongly believed that archivists served their institution, and that any benefit to society was incidental. G. Philip Bauer, writing in the 1940s, argued that government archives at least served society, and that it was up to the archives to prove that its benefit to society exceeded the cost.

Frank Boles, in the 1980s, insisted that archivists first and foremost served their institutions, and only if their institutions served society was the archival mission a broad one. But in her mid-1990s SAA presidential address Maygene Daniels was equally convinced that "archivists serve some higher, broader public good. Our very principles are directed toward ensuring universal goals." In 2005 we saw this debate played out over the question of whether corporate archivists could adhere "to any sense of professional ethics or mission"² because their role was to serve their institution. Business archivists questioned whether a social mission was inherent in the profession.

It may be of some relevance, perhaps, to note that the SAA Code of Ethics defines no broad role for archivists or the archival profession. On the other hand, there is in the ethics code a clear statement on "respecting each institution and its mission." The Association of Canadian Archivists' ethics code specifies only that archivists serve their users, implicitly defined as the patron set identified by the institution, internal or external. Similarly, the American Library Association's code of ethics makes no presumption of public service, only service to one's users, however defined.³

I also find it interesting that capitalist economic theory rests in large measure on the belief that individuals and companies pursuing narrow goals will result, in the end, in social benefit. Whether one finds that theory plausible, of course, is another matter. But it suggests, to a certain extent, that the contest between narrow and broad mission may be a paradox rather than a dichotomy. Thus some archivists and their institutions might have an explicitly broad mission, while others have a definitively narrow one, but the profession as a whole might still serve society.⁴

Or it may simply be that the archival mission is to serve our users, whoever those are defined by our institutions as being. Jeannette Bastian writes, "archivists need to determine how to best meet the needs of users whether the users are the parent organization or researchers from the outside."⁵ This conception of mission and identity has the potential advantage of being inclusive, for it encompasses every archivist and every archives. And as I have already suggested, my inclination is to hew toward a broadly inclusive conception of identity. The question ultimately, however, is whether such an identity is resonant, worthy, and sustainable.

Our identity, however, is more than our mission. It includes the personal characteristics that mark a good archivist as well.

The modern world needs people with a complex identity who are intellectually autonomous and prepared to cope with uncertainty; who are able to tolerate ambiguity and not be driven by fear into a rigid, single-solution approach to problems, who are rational, foresightful and who look for facts; who can draw inferences and can control their behavior in the light of foreseen consequences, who are altruistic and enjoy doing for others, and who understand social forces and trends.⁶

There is much here, I think, that describes the necessary attributes of the modern archivist, though it strikes me that there may be something important missing.

I am on record in another context as arguing that archival appraisal is neither science nor magic, but art.⁷ I was therefore taken by an expression of

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Performance Anxiety

Did you know that it takes nine feet of tubing to make one trombone? That's just one of the many interesting facts revealed about all manner of things on the Science Channel program "How It's Made." Dozens of episodes have detailed the manufacture of cheesecakes, chain saws, umbrellas, and darts, among a host of diverse products.

I have no mechanical ability whatsoever and the words "some assembly required" terrify me, so I'm not sure why I'm so attracted to this show. Perhaps it's the systematic, orderly nature of production that is so appealing. All of the parts fit together perfectly, on time, every time.

Things don't always work that way in the association environment.

Ours is a messier, less predictable place, where ideas and personalities and perspectives collide and combine to produce value. Turnover in governance and continuously evolving issues demand learning, re-learning, and un-learning assumptions and requirements and skills. We try to bring order and direction through plans, budgets, and policies, but the only thing we can depend on is that disruptions (flooded archives in the Midwest or hackers attacking our websites) and distractions (removal of the Ba'ath Party records from Iraq or disgruntled researchers demanding SAA's intervention) will emerge with regularity.

These variations make it easy to indict the association model as a poor way of doing business. It is certainly true that our "factory" lacks precision and efficiency. It does, however, accurately reflect the key component with which we work: People. This volatile and

variable ingredient ensures a never-ending supply of challenges and change.

(And, at times, amusement. You'd be astounded, for example, by the number of times that earnest and well-intentioned committee, section, and roundtable leaders ask me for their annual meeting room assignments anywhere from three to six months in advance of the conference. Because putting together a meeting like ARCHIVES 2008 is a complex process, room assignments can't be completed until about eight weeks in advance. No matter how hard we try.)

But the people factor also ensures a robust "economy of ideas" where competing perspectives and solutions can be explored and debated. Deliberation may seem chaotic at times, but the turmoil of ideas banging together is a necessary by-product of human exchange. Sure, it can get personal and political, but it can also produce extraordinary value. Consider how sound public policy decisions, safety standards, credentialing, and consumer education are among the valuable end-products of the association process.

How these end-products are made may not be as orderly as an assembly line in a pristine, computer-controlled factory environment. But ours is a process that is nonetheless as productive and valuable as can be expected from any endeavor involving human beings. Professional associations—whether at the local, state, regional, or national level—"add value" by leveraging human capital through consensus.

No one who ever dealt with people should expect to operate that kind of process in the same way that paper cups, countertops, or candy canes are made. ❖

SAA RECOGNIZES

Honor Roll of Contributors

Despite gloomy economic news and rising costs for food and energy, SAA was on the receiving end of 154 civic-minded individuals and 3 organizations who made contributions to the SAA Special Funds this year. During Fiscal Year 2008 these donors gave more than \$21,700 to support scholarships, programs, and awards that recognize public awareness, publishing excellence, and outstanding contributions to the archives field. SAA thanks the following individuals for their generosity and the contributions they made from July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008.

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Documenting Tragedy: The Prevail Archives at Virginia Tech

AARON D. PURCELL, Director of Special Collections, Virginia Tech

The fatal shootings of thirty-two people by a troubled student on April 16, 2007, brought the thoughts and prayers of the world to Virginia Tech. The university in Blacksburg, Virginia, received thousands of condolences in the week following 4/16 (as it is often referred to here) and they now form an important archival collection: the Prevail Archives at Virginia Tech. Working with these materials has been an overwhelming and challenging experience and sharing a quick review with other archivists helps us prepare for the next stage of work.

Hokies Prevail

Media saturation made it possible for the world to watch many of the memorial events held at Virginia Tech in mid-April 2007. On April 18, 2007, poet Nikki Giovanni, a distinguished professor of English at Virginia Tech, delivered an uplifting convocation address. Her emotional poem concluded with the prediction, "We will prevail! We are Virginia Tech!"

Prevailing over challenge stuck as a uniting theme for all Hokies around the world and became the name for the archival collection that grew from the many tokens received by the university. (The word *Hokie* was coined by senior O. M. Stull, Class of 1896, who won first prize for the spirit "yell" he wrote for a school competition. He explained the word was the product of his imagination and was used only as an attention-getter for his yell. It soon became a nickname for all Virginia Tech teams.)



Photo: Carolyn Kleimel

A signed life preserver sent by members of the U.S. Coast Guard to Virginia Tech sits among a pile of items waiting to be sorted by archivists.



The initials of Virginia Tech are filled with the logos of colleges and universities throughout the United States.

In the days immediately following 4/16, the world offered support and sympathy to Virginia Tech. Cookies, candy, and other food items immediately arrived at the Student Center. But within a few days, signed banners, photographs, letters, poetry, decorated objects, textiles, mixed-media art, condolence books, plaques, and origami cranes flooded the campus. The university received more than 100,000 items from all fifty states and from dozens of countries around the world.

The material documents the global outpouring of support to Virginia Tech. School children, military officers, prisoners, politicians, and academics alike reacted to that tragic day. Some of the most unique gifts included a flag flown at half-staff above the Statue of Liberty, thirty-two hand-painted eggs, a framed poster from the Columbine High School staff, a life preserver signed by members of the U.S. Coast Guard, and a letter from President George W. Bush.

During those first few days, several on-campus groups played a crucial role in planning events and collecting the offerings of condolence. The university created the Office of Recovery and Support to coordinate the overall effort. The University Unions and Student Activities (UUSA) began collecting the incoming material and organizing exhibits in the Student Center to share them with the Virginia Tech community. The volunteer group Hokies United took responsibility for many of the items left on campus by visitors, including plywood message boards with thousands of signatures.

First Piece of the Puzzle

In late April, the University Libraries and UUSA began planning for a permanent collection of 4/16 material, with condolences forming the first piece of the puzzle. The official title of the collection, "The Virginia Tech April 16, 2007, Prevail Archives of the University Libraries," became known as the Prevail Archives. Special Collections, which includes University Archives, is the home for this important collection.

To adequately prepare for a collection of such diversity and emotional magnitude, the University Libraries reached out to national consultants. Experts from the Library of Congress visited Blacksburg the week following 4/16 and emphasized the importance of defining a mission, scope, and selection criteria. They advised us to collect material that reflected popular culture, possessed sociological interest, documented the unusual outliers, originated from peer and other academic institutions, and was aesthetically pleasing, attractive, or expressive. The consultants were concerned with the preservation of fragile items and any material that had been left outdoors. Their recommendations helped define many of the components of the Prevail Archives.

At the same time archivists and librarians at a number of other academic institutions stepped forward to help. Institutions familiar with documenting their own tragedies, including Syracuse University, Bluffton University, Oklahoma State University, and Texas A&M, offered important insights and advice. Digital support came from Rutgers University. When the University Libraries and the UUSA proposed to scan and photograph selected items for display on a website, Rutgers offered the server space and a database to host the digital files and metadata, through their repository project called RUCore. This open source software, developed at the University of Virginia and Cornell University, serves as the basis for the New Jersey Digital Highway.

Generous support from the university and student groups allowed the University Libraries to hire staff for archival processing, metadata creation, and selected scanning of the

collection. The university also provided an off-site processing area for the work to take place. Open communication channels between the various departments and organizations proved invaluable during the planning stages of the Prevail Archives.

Preservation and Access

Special Collections took significant responsibility for planning the long-term preservation and access to the Prevail Archives. University Archivist Tamara Kennelly coordinated the work of hired staff, photographers, and librarians for the project. Staff in Special Collections also assisted with selection of material for digitization and general processing. Technical support for the online collection came from staff at Rutgers and the Digital Library and Archives and Library Systems at Virginia Tech. Thanks to these collaborations, nearly 2,000 digitized images are available online, and 800 linear feet of material has been moved into space maintained by Special Collections in the main library on campus.

Access to the collection will come in several ways. Archivists will create a standard EAD finding aid to the archival collection, which will be available through the Virginia Heritage Database and through Virginia Tech's online catalog. The physical collection will be accessible through the Special Collections Reading Room at Virginia Tech. Online access to selections from the Prevail Archives allows users to search records which have Dublin Core and MODS fields. Users can do general or Boolean searches and browse by format. You can find the search page for the digital collection at http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/416_archive.

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So Many Buildings, So Little Time: Strolling San Francisco

SUSAN GOLDSTEIN, City Archivist, San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

San Francisco isn't all cozy Victorian houses snuggled up against one another, running up and down scenic neighborhood hills. Looking beyond familiar San Francisco icons, such as the Transamerica Pyramid and the Golden Gate Bridge, there are other exceptional buildings and landscapes in San Francisco that merit a visit when you come to the SAA Annual Meeting, August 26–30, at the Hilton San Francisco. The city is in the midst of a building boom to construct new civic edifices designed by internationally renowned architects and to renovate historical landmarks to their former glory. A feast of new and restored buildings will enrich your itinerary. When strolling through San Francisco, be sure to include some of the following gems on your list.

The **de Young Museum**, designed by the Swiss architecture firm Herzog and de Meuron, opened in Golden Gate Park on the site of the old museum in October 2005. Clad in a perforated copper façade, the new museum is topped by a twisting 144-foot tower that features panoramic views of the entire Bay Area. The museum also includes a sculpture garden and site-specific commissions by artists James Turrell (whose work involves explorations of light and space) and Andy Goldsworthy (who collaborates with nature to make his creations), among others. The new building created enormous controversy in San Francisco during its construction because of its modern look, which is a far cry from the faux Spanish-style building the public had grown to love.



Photo: de Young Museum

The de Young Museum reopened in Golden Gate Park in 2005 on the site of the old museum. The twisting 144-foot tower features panoramic views of the Bay Area.

The de Young Museum was originally founded in 1895 in Golden Gate Park, after the closing of the 1894 California Midwinter International Exposition. Spearheaded by M.H. de Young, the publisher of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the museum was established in the fair's Fine Arts Building and held items from the exposition's exhibits. The current focus of the de Young collections is American art from the 17th through the 20th centuries, and art of the native Americas, Africa, and the Pacific. The museum's bold design and use of natural materials, as well as its collections, are worth a trip to Golden Gate Park (see <http://www.famsf.org/deyoung/index.asp>).

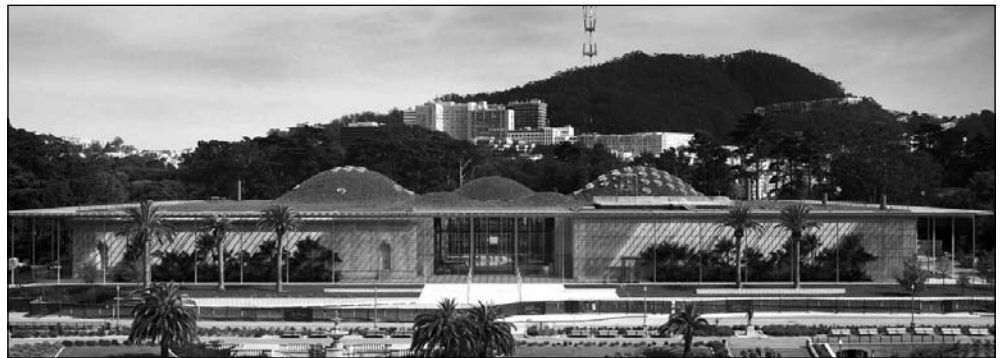


Photo: California Academy of Sciences

The California Academy of Sciences has a 2.5-acre living roof with a rolling landscape that imitates the topography of San Francisco (above). Among the many features inside the building is a planetarium and coral reef (below, right). It opens in Golden Gate Park in late September.

Directly across the Music Concourse from the de Young Museum in Golden Gate Park, the **California Academy of Sciences** is slated to debut on September 27, 2008. Although not open in time for the SAA meeting, this innovative building is fascinating for its exterior design alone. The new building, created by Italian architect Renzo Piano, will be one of the greenest buildings in the city with solar panels, radiant floor heating, and its own water reclamation system. The spectacular



Photo: California Academy of Sciences

2.5-acre living roof, punctuated by domes and skylights and lushly covered with wildflowers, will help regulate the internal temperature and lighting of the structure. The rolling roof landscape echoes the topography of San Francisco. Inside, the four-story glass-domed rainforest will be a highlight of the building. Originally established in 1853, the academy contains a planetarium, an aquarium, and a natural history museum. When the academy reopens, all 38,000 live animals will be ready in their new homes for the public to return, an incredible feat of moving logistics (see <http://www.calacademy.org/index.php>).



Photo: Bruce Damonte

The Contemporary Jewish Museum on Mission Street is a 1907 Classical Revival style (above) that holds two blue steel-panel cubes with skylights that light up at night (below).

The **Contemporary Jewish Museum** opened to the public on June 6, 2008. Erupting from the body of a 1907 Classical Revival style building, famed architect Daniel Libeskind's vibrant blue metallic steel cubes are meant to evoke the two Hebrew letters that represent "chai," which means life. The museum's mission is to celebrate Jewish culture, history, art, and ideas, engaging and educating audiences of all ages in the airy 63,000-square-foot facility. The opening-day exhibits feature "From the *New Yorker* to *Shrek*: The Art of William Steig" and "In the Beginning: Artists Respond to Genesis." The museum includes a gift shop and café, a nice way station to break up city rambles.



Photo: Bruce Damonte

The **Jessie Street Power Substation** was originally constructed in 1881, but the brick and terra cotta structure was later remodeled by architect Willis Polk after the 1906 earthquake and fire. The substation was in use by Pacific

Gas & Electric until the late 1960s. The adaptive reuse of this landmark melds the 20th and 21st centuries, stressing the integration of tradition and innovation. If your wandering brings you here, don't forget to visit the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**, the **California Historical Society**, the **Cartoon Art Museum**, or the **Museum of Craft and Folk Art**, all within a one-block walk of the Contemporary Jewish Museum (see <http://www.thecjm.org/index.php>).

If you have a hankering for locally sourced organic produce, gourmet chocolate, or some of the best Vietnamese fusion cuisine in town, then you just might want to head over to the **Ferry Building** on the Embarcadero. The original Beaux Arts Ferry Building, designed by A. Page Brown, opened in 1898 on the waterfront at the foot of Market Street as the main arrival and departure point for the busy Bay Area ferry system. With the construction of bridges in 1937 and the decline of the ferry system, much of the building was converted into offices that obliterated the grand spaces of the original plan. It was further entombed by the building of the double-deck Embarcadero Freeway across its front in 1957. However, when the freeway came down after the 1989 Loma



Photo: Aaron Kahr

The Ferry Building on the Embarcadero is topped by a 245-foot clock tower that is a prominent sight on the San Francisco waterfront. Inside the Beaux Arts building is the Ferry Plaza Marketplace.

Prieta earthquake, the Ferry Building received another chance. After a creative and painstaking restoration, it reopened in 2003 as the home of the Ferry Plaza Marketplace, a cornucopia of Bay Area foods stalls, restaurants and retail shops, featuring locally grown goods. The popular outdoor Saturday Farmer's Market is crowded with locals and tourists.

The historic renovation restored the Great Nave, a 660-foot-long, sky lit, two-story concourse featuring monumental lattice windows, marble walls, 11 brick and terra cotta arches, 12 steel trusses, and a marble mosaic floor. The building is topped by a 245-foot clock tower, modeled after the 12th-century Seville Cathedral bell tower in Spain, a prominent sight against the San Francisco waterfront. And the building remains the working home for Bay Area ferry service, with ferries traveling daily to Sausalito, Alameda, and Vallejo. A small historical exhibit about the building is on the ground floor. For more information, see <http://www.ferrybuildingmarketplace.com/>.

The **Palace of Fine Arts**, constructed as part of the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exhibition, was one of the few

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John Dean to Give Keynote Address

Author, archives user, and former White House Counsel John W. Dean III will be the keynote speaker at the Opening Plenary Session of ARCHIVES 2008 on August 28 at the Hilton San Francisco. The session, slated to explore the professional identity of archivists, is scheduled to begin at 4:00 pm. SAA President Mark Greene will give the 72nd Presidential Address.



Counsel to the president of the United States in July 1970 at age 31, Dean was chief minority counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, the associate director of a law reform commission, and associate deputy attorney general of the United States. He served as Richard Nixon's White House lawyer for a thousand days.

Dean has long written on the subjects of law, government, and politics, and he recounted his days in the Nixon White House and Watergate in two books, *Blind Ambition* (1976) and *Lost Honor* (1982). He lives in Beverly Hills, California, with his wife Maureen, and now devotes himself full time to writing and lecturing, having retired from his career as a private investment banker.

In 2001 he published *The Rehnquist Choice: The Untold Story of the Nixon Appointment that Redefined the Supreme Court*; in early 2004, *Warren G. Harding*, followed by *Worse Than Watergate: The Secret Presidency of George W. Bush*. In 2006, Dean published *Conservatives Without Conscience*. His newest book is *Broken Government: How Republican Rule Destroyed the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches*. ❖

Mystery Books Feature Archivist

Author Sally Wright to Sign Books in San Francisco

Ben Reese is a "man of intellect and a man of action." He may not have an Aston Martin or a shoe phone—after all, he is just an archivist at a small private college in Ohio—but he knows how to solve a crime. Author Sally Wright bases Reese, the protagonist in her mystery series, on an archivist she knew while in college. "Thirty-one years ago to be exact, a college archivist I'd known for years told me what he'd done in World War II—and gave me the idea for Ben Reese and a whole series of books," says Wright.

In Wright's mystery series, Reese is a university archivist at Alderton College in the 1960s who uses the skills he developed as a scout in World War II to investigate murders on the side. "The contrast between what he was, and what he did when I knew him, made me want to create a fictional character with those internal contrasts," Wright explains.

An archivist who reviewed the fourth book of the series, *Out of the Ruin*, "loved the book because of Ben Reese and the way he exemplifies what archivists face in academe, and why and how they care about history and the work they do," says Wright.

Severn House Publishers recently published the fifth book in the series: *Watches of the Night*. Her book *Pursuit and Persuasion* made her a 2001 Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allen Poe Award Finalist. And the New York Times Book Review says of her writing: "There's an art to the academic mystery, and Sally Wright has it pretty much mastered in her Ben Reese series . . ."

Wright will be available to discuss her work and sign books August 28–29 in the exhibit hall during SAA's 72nd Annual Meeting at the Hilton San Francisco. ❖

"Go Green" in San Francisco

KATE THEIMER and PETER GUNTHER,

Issues and Advocacy Roundtable Co-Conveners

The Issues and Advocacy Roundtable (I&A) wants to make it easier to be green. The I&A Roundtable will be kicking off a new way of doing business at this year's annual meeting. Instead of identifying issues to forward to the SAA Council, the Roundtable will now be identifying one or two major issues that archivists face and making them the focus for the upcoming year. Up for discussion at the San Francisco Roundtable meeting will be a possible focus on the environment and sustainability and what we can do in our archives to help promote the health of our planet.

The goals for the re-tooled I&A Roundtable are to provide a forum for discussion and actions on critical issues that the archives profession faces that are not the primary focus of another SAA group, and to promote discourse and activity regarding issues requiring advocacy from archivists or SAA leadership.

Possible activities for focus issues (such as the environment) could include creating online resources (such as a wiki), organizing sessions for the next annual meeting or for regional conferences, or identifying suggestions for possible Council action. The I&A Roundtable hopes to partner with other roundtables and sections whenever possible to broaden interest in its focus topic.

Interested, but can't make it to San Francisco? Not to worry. The I&A Roundtable wants to explore using new tools to keep its activity going between meetings and get everyone involved, not just those who can get to the annual meeting. Contact Kate Theimer [kate.theimer@gmail.com] or Peter Gunther [raggmopp_2000@yahoo.com] if you've got ideas for issues that need attention or if you want to get involved in the environmental focus. ❖

Pre-Conference Workshops ARCHIVES 2008 San Francisco

- August 24** **Applying DACS to Single Item Manuscript Cataloging**
Implementing “More Product, Less Process”
- August 24–25** **Understanding Archives: An Introduction to Principles and Practices**
- August 25** **Financial Management Basics for Archivists**
Driving Exhibitions with Oral History
Research Skills Tutorial
- August 25–26** **Copyright: The Archivist and the Law**
Encoded Archival Description
Implementing DACS in Integrated Content Management Systems: Using the Archivists Toolkit™
New and Remodeled Archival Facilities
- August 26** **Analyzing and Improving Archival Websites**
The Essentials of Digital Repositories
Preserving Your Audio and Video Assets
Train the Trainer

For more information, please call 866-722-7858
or visit www.archivists.org.



Annual Meeting Information for First-Timers and New Members

We understand that being a new member of an organization or of the profession, or attending a large conference for the first time, can be a daunting experience. That's why we provide a variety of services and programs that can help you survive—and thrive—at ARCHIVES 2008 and beyond....

New Member / First-Timer Orientation

Thursday, August 28
7:00 am – 8:00 am

Begin your day on Thursday by joining SAA President Mark Greene, President-Elect Frank Boles, Council members, and the SAA Membership Committee for a casual conversation about how to make the most of your time at the conference. A light continental breakfast will be served.

Career Center

Thursday, August 28, and Friday, August 29
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday, August 30
9:00 am – 11:00 am

Wondering about your career options? Visit the Career Center to learn about current employment vacancies and opportunities for postgraduate study, to meet with prospective employers, or to consult with a career advisor. If you're a job seeker or potential employer, take this opportunity to place your job announcement or résumé on file for others to see at the meeting. For more information, contact Jeanette Spears at SAA: 866-722-7858 or jspears@archivists.org.

Mentoring Program

Thursday, August 28
8:00 am – 8:30 am

Interested in discussing paths for professional development? Want to share your knowledge and experience with a fresh young talent? Stop by the Career Center for coffee and learn how SAA's dynamic Mentoring Program can help you make the right connections.

Navigator Program

SAA's Women Archivists Roundtable and Membership Committee are pleased to sponsor the Navigator Program, which matches experienced members with new members or first-time attendees. Your navigator can help guide you through the maze of this large meeting! All ARCHIVES 2008 attendees are welcome to request a navigator or volunteer to serve in this important role. Just check the appropriate box on the Registration Form. For more information, contact Karen Walton Morse at 716-645-2916, ext 258, or navigator@forums.archivists.org. You'll be contacted in mid-July and matched with a partner. The deadline to request a navigator is July 30. ❖

Leadership Is a Hot Topic for Summer

Leadership is a trait that archivists must develop if they want adequate and true representation when decisions are made affecting the profession. The timeless topic was recently explored at the first-ever Archives Leadership Institute held in June at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, funded in part by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. It will be the focus of a forum at SAA's 72nd annual meeting in San Francisco later this summer, and is also the subject of an excellent new book, *Leading and Managing Archives and Records Programs: Strategies for Success*, edited by Bruce Dearstyne.

Archives Leadership Institute

"The most pressing leadership need is for archivists to have a seat at the table as decisions are made in areas where archives, libraries, information technology, and records management converge," said Jane Pearlmutter, associate director for the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

Twenty-seven people attended the institute, created to prepare archivists to influence policy and bring about change in the field, at Madison's lakeshore conference center June 21–28.



Photo: Susan Santher, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Twenty-seven participants from around the country gathered in Madison, Wisconsin, June 21–28 for the first-ever Archives Leadership Institute held at the University of Wisconsin. On the steps of the lakeshore conference center are: front row, from left: Mary Caldera, Sara Holmes, Erik Nordberg, Jeffrey Kintop, Heather Lawton, Claudia Holguin. Middle row, from left: Sammie Morris, Heather Briston, Erika Castaño, Jill Severn, Jennifer McDaid, Geoffrey Huth, Rosemary Pleva Flynn, Tara Laver, Donna McCrea, Jane Rosario, Gina Vergara-Bautista, Janet Carleton, Charles Greifenstein. Back row, from left: Scott Goodine, Tom Hyry, Taronda Spencer, Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Amy Cooper Cary, William Carpenter, Pamela Wright, Neil Dahlstrom.

Participants were selected from more than 100 applicants, rated on factors such as a personal statement and letter of recommendation, evidence of involvement in the profession, and their potential for making an impact on it, according to Pearlmutter. Care was taken to include individuals from different types of repositories and various geographic regions.

Pearlmutter thinks a good leader employs different styles and tactics to effectively work different situations. "If there is one behavior that is essential, it is this: Any archival leader needs to know how to explain, in a succinct way, what archives are and what archivists do, and look for opportunities to get this message to the right audience," she said.

The institute's schedule included lectures, case studies, and onsite projects at the Pyle Center on Lake Mendota. Among the topics included were "What Are Our Shared Values? Policy Issues for Archivists," the "Politics of Budgeting and Finance," and "Collaboration and Coalition Building." Panels also addressed subjects such as mentoring and managing change.

ARCHIVES 2008 Leadership Orientation

A two-hour Leadership Orientation and Forum will be held on Wednesday, August 27, at the Hilton San Francisco, site of ARCHIVES 2008. SAA President Mark Greene and President-Elect Frank Boles will conduct this interactive session, looking at the roles and responsibilities of SAA's component leaders. If you are the head of a section, roundtable, or a committee officer, mark your calendar for 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

"The forum offers individuals serving in SAA leadership posts the opportunity to quickly and (relatively) painlessly understand both what is expected of them and how they can accomplish their objectives within SAA," said Boles. "Although SAA leaders undertake a wide range of activities, success within these diverse tasks often depends on understanding a core body of knowledge about how SAA operates. Knowing how to get things done is an important component in making service within SAA a positive experience."

Book Offers Insights on Leadership Strategy

A new book on leadership includes advice from several directors of archives programs. *Leading and Managing Archives and Records Programs: Strategies for Success*,

edited by Bruce Dearstyne and recently published by Neal-Schuman Publishers, is available from SAA (<http://www.archivists.org/catalog/pubDetail.asp?objectID=2381>). Royalties from the book are dedicated to the SAA Foundation and the ARMA International Educational Foundation.

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Council Adopts FY2009 Budget, Attends Open House

The first party you host always helps a house feel more like a home. Now SAA is officially "at home" in its new offices at 17 North State Street in Chicago. On May 29, SAA staff members hosted an open house that welcomed into the 3,800-square-foot space current and incoming Council members, as well as Chicago-area Fellows and members who have contributed their time to headquarters activities.

Following the lively kickoff, the Council meeting got down to business. Council members deliberated on a variety of agenda items, focusing on review and approval of the FY2009 (July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009) budget. The Council adopted an amended budget with total income of \$2,386,227, total expenses of \$2,366,583, and a projected net gain of \$19,644. Included in the budget is the second and final year of revenue from inclusion of SAA's *Photographs: Archival Care and Management* in an IMLS-funded grant to the American Association for State and Local History's Conservation Bookshelf project.

In other actions, the Council:

- **Thanked the Task Force to Review the *Protocols for Native American Archival Materials*** for its work in proposing a plan for professional discussion of the *Protocols*. The Council declined to implement the proposed plan, but noted the Task Force's persistent efforts to further the professional conversation about proper administration of cultural property. The Council will incorporate the issues and proposals raised by the Task Force in its efforts to address the matter of cultural property more broadly, extending beyond the *Protocols* document.
- **Responding to a request from the current Committee on Education, voted to reconfigure the Committee** from two subcommittees (one on graduate education and one on continuing education) into one committee "made up of a balanced mix of graduate archival educators and practicing archivists."
- **Adopted a "Policy on Use of Specific Products in SAA Workshops"** that requires the Education Department to include the following disclaimer statement on any workshop materials that carry the product name and/or logo of a product provided by an entity other than SAA: "The instructor utilizes [product] to facilitate teaching the content of this workshop. The use of [product] does not represent or imply SAA endorsement of this product."
- **Approved a revised description of the Issues and Advocacy Roundtable:** "Provides a forum for discussion of critical issues that the archives profession faces that are not the primary focus of another SAA group."

- **Adopted a general retention schedule for official SAA email discussion lists** (with the exception of the Archives and Archivists List) that calls for a rolling destruction date of two years for messages of a routine administrative nature or possessing only transitory value. If the message possesses enduring value for administrative, legal, or fiscal purposes or has historical value, the chair or convener must ensure that it is printed out as a hard copy or saved as an electronic file in the SAA leader's own filing system. These records must be transferred to the SAA Archives in accordance with the terms of the relevant records schedule, or as deemed appropriate by that person and the SAA Archivist. (The SAA Archives is housed at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee under the watchful eye of SAA Archivist Michael Doyle. He can be

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COME AND KNOCK ON OUR DOOR On May 29, SAA staff hosted an open house to welcome guests to the association's new 3,800-square-foot office at 17 North State Street in Chicago. *Above:* SAA member Helen Samuels (foreground) shares a story with colleagues. *Below:* Enjoying each other's company are (from left) Director of Education Solveig De Sutter, Director of Finance/Administration Tom Jurczak; Council Member Margery Sly (Presbyterian Church USA), Service Center Manager Carlos Salgado; and Council Member Bruce Ambacher (University of Maryland).



NARA Reports Progress with Israeli-Palestinian Records Project

Recently in this space, I wrote about efforts by the National Archives and the Library and Archives Canada to support collaboration between Israel and the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in archiving and preserving the records of their shared heritage.

Librarian and Archivist of Canada Ian Wilson and I, together with a few professional staff members, traveled to Israel earlier this year and held meetings with both Israeli and Palestinian officials to discuss the need for practical records management training for their respec-

tive staffs. While there, we identified collections that provide documentation of both the history of the State of Israel and the history of the Palestinian people.

One important aspect of these efforts is that archives officials from both sides want to work together on these projects, which document the histories of their people.

The history of the two archives is quite different. The Israeli State Archives was established in 1949, one year after the

State of Israel was founded. The Palestinian National Archives was established in the late 1990s, after the Palestinian National Authority was formed in 1994.

I am now pleased to report that progress has been made in this endeavor. Earlier this month, officials who oversee archival and records management issues from both Israel and the PNA joined me and Mr. Wilson in Ottawa.

There, for the first time, these officials—representing both sides in the ongoing conflict in the Middle East—sat down at the same table and discussed their archival issues, even those on which they might disagree.

There was preliminary acceptance of a partnership between the Israelis and the Palestinians for preserving the records in which both have an interest. A draft Memorandum of Understanding was drawn up with these goals:

- Digitize and make available to everyone newspapers published in Palestine during and prior to 1948. These newspapers are held in a variety of places in Israel and would be digitized by a joint Israeli-Palestinian team and placed on a public website.
- Survey and digitize photographs documenting pre-1948 cultural life of Mandatory Palestine. As with the newspapers, these photographs would be digitized and placed on a public website.
- Survey and digitize records from the British Mandate and Ottoman period—now in the Israel State Archives, but for the most part document matters involving Palestinian Arabs.
- Set up records management and archival training programs for staff from the Palestine National Archives and the Israel State Archives.
- Form a non-partisan team of archivists and records managers to inspect and inventory the records seized from the Orient House in August 2001. The Orient House was the administrative center of Arab Jerusalem; it was closed by the Israelis after bombings in 2001 that were attributed to the Palestinians. Israel has since rejected repeated requests to return these records.

One of our principal tasks now is to find financial resources for these activities—not an easy task at this time.

The National Archives' efforts in the Middle East are a part of our international outreach programs. We seek to help other countries improve archival and records management practices so that the stories of their nations may be preserved and made available to their people far into the future.

We are encouraged by our progress with Israel and the Palestinians, pleased that our efforts may help to support full access to the records that guarantee rights of citizens, hold government accountable, and tell a national story. ❖

There was preliminary acceptance of a partnership between the Israelis and the Palestinians for preserving the records in which both have an interest.



International Council on Archives Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Best wishes and continued success to the International Council on Archives (ICA), which celebrated its 60th anniversary in June. Six decades ago, the archives of Europe were just starting to recover from World War II. The years before the war had seen sporadic attempts to create an international association of archivists, but none were successful. SAA President Solon J. Buck used his presidential address in 1946 to call for an international association of archivists. With the support of SAA, the National Archives, and the Library of Congress, Buck proposed to the then-new United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) that it convene a world congress of archivists to establish an international association. UNESCO agreed, and the organizing meeting took place June 9–11, 1948. The group included representatives from Czechoslovakia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, and the United States. Observers from Australia, UNESCO, and the military-occupation authorities of Germany, were also on hand at the founding of ICA.

Here's to ICA and many more anniversary celebrations!

Archival Solidarity Supports International Development

Archival Solidarity is a project of ICA that encourages sharing of information about archival assistance, cooperation and international outreach projects—archivists supporting archivists—to promote archival development. A recent project brought together Albania and Switzerland. The National Archives of Albania has been modernized, assisted by the direction of the Swiss Federal Archives and using funds provided by Switzerland's government aid program. Reconstruction of the archives and records center included installation of an Information Technology system, a website with search capacity for finding aids, a new reading room, archival training in the region, and new legislation on archives. Individuals, organizations and institutions can share their stories with the chair of the Archival Solidarity Committee. Write to Nancy.Marrelli@concordia.ca.

Fulbright Fellowships Take Archivists 'Round the World

The Fulbright Program offers short-term fellowships supported by the U.S. State Department and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

Two programs may be of interest to archivists: *The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program* sends approximately 1,100 American scholars and professionals to more than 155 countries each year, where they lecture and conduct research in a wide variety of academic and professional fields.

The Fulbright Senior Specialists Program is a short-term complement to the traditional Fulbright Scholar Program, awarding grants for a period of two-to-six weeks. Fulbright Senior Specialist activities are designed to provide U.S. scholars and professionals the opportunity to collaborate with professional counterparts at non-U.S. institutions of higher education, on

curriculum and faculty development, institutional assessment and planning, and a variety of other activities.

For more information on either program, contact Executive Director Sabine O'Hara at 202/686-4000 or Jonathan Meuller at ext. 7863; or visit <http://fulbright.ecacms.getusinfo.com/fulbright/about>.

Canadian and Dutch Archivists Debate in Brazilian Archival Journal

Arquivo & Administração includes the English-language version of an archival debate between Terry Eastwood (School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia) and Theo Thomassen (Amsterdam School of the Fine Arts) during the March 2007 meeting of the Brazilian Archivists Society in Rio de Janeiro. The debate touched on a number of topics including standardization of archival description. You can read the full article, which was printed in vol. 6, no. 2 (July/Dec. 2007), online at www.aab.org.br.

Preservation News Looks at Sustainable Development

The May 2008 issue of *International Preservation News* is available online at <http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/ipn.html#Issues>. Compiled by the International Federation of Library Associations, the issue focuses on "Library and Archives Facing the Challenges of Sustainable Development." Address copy requests to: flore.izart@bnf.fr. ❖

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Senate Panel Holds National Archives Oversight Hearing

LELAND J. WHITE, Director, National Coalition for History

On May 14, 2008, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services and International Security held an oversight hearing on the programs of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Former Maine State Archivist Dr. James Henderson represented the Society of American Archivists at the hearing, with Dr. Martin J. Sherwin of George Mason University representing the National Coalition for History. Tom Blanton, director of the National Security Archive, also testified. This was the first oversight hearing on the National Archives in well over a decade.

The first panel consisted of Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein, Linda Koontz, director of Information Services at the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and Paul Brachfield, Inspector General of the National Archives and Records Administration.

The question-and-answer period for the first panel was highlighted by a sharp exchange between Weinstein and Brachfield over the lack of responsiveness by NARA to alleged weaknesses in its programs identified by the Inspector General's office. The panel also spent the bulk of the Q&A period discussing the progress and deficiencies of NARA's Electronic Records Archive (ERA).

Weinstein told Subcommittee Chairman Thomas Carper (D-DE) that the long-delayed ERA system would come online in June and that he expected the system would be capable of accepting the Bush Administration's records at the time of the presidential transition on January 20, 2009.

Inspector General Brachfield stated that he had identified warning signs with the ERA contractor Lockheed-Martin some time ago and his alarms had not been heeded by senior management at NARA. Brachfield expressed concerns about "if or when ERA will be operational." Koontz stated that the ERA faced challenges in both the long- and short-term. She expressed real concern that the system was still at risk and that ERA would not be ready to accept the Bush Administration's records next January.

Joining Sherwin, Henderson and Blanton on the second panel was Dr. Patrice McDermott, director of OpenTheGovernment.org.

In summarizing the Q&A period, a number of themes emerged. There was consensus among the panelists that NARA was, as Blanton put it, "drowning" under the challenges of declassification of millions of documents and the processing of presidential records. McDermott and Blanton were sharply critical of NARA's reticence to aggressively oversee records

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NHPRC Receives \$10 Million in FY'09 Funding

On June 25, 2008, the House Appropriations Committee cleared the Financial Services and General Government Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations bill that includes funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). The NHPRC not only staved off elimination, but received its fully authorized amount of \$10 million (plus \$2 million for administrative costs) for the first time since FY 2004.

As it has in recent years, the Bush administration once again zeroed out funding for the NHPRC in its proposed FY '09 budget. In FY '08, Congress provided \$9.5 million for NHPRC: \$7.5 million in grants funding and \$2 million for administrative expenses.

House Appropriations Panel Gives NARA \$23.6 Million Increase in FY'09

On June 25, 2008, the House Appropriations Committee cleared the Financial Services and General Government Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations bill that includes funding for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). NARA received \$423.8 million, a significant \$23.6 million increase over the FY '08 enacted amount of \$400.2 million and \$31.7 million more than the President's request for FY '09.

New Policy on "Controlled Unclassified Information"

The White House recently released a new policy attempting to standardize procedures for the treatment of what is

referred to as "Sensitive but Unclassified" (SBU) information. The memorandum issued by the President adopts, defines and institutes "Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)" as the new standard for the treatment of such information. There are currently over 100 different markings for sensitive information that has led to over-classification. The new CUI policy would reduce that to three categories. These three new categories are:

- "Controlled with Standard Dissemination" meaning the information requires standard safeguarding measures that reduce the risks of unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure. Dissemination is permitted to the extent that it is reasonably believed that it would further the execution of a lawful or official purpose.
- "Controlled with Specified Dissemination" meaning the information requires safeguarding measures that reduce the risks of unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure. Material contains additional instructions on what dissemination is permitted.
- "Controlled Enhanced with Specified Dissemination" meaning the information requires safeguarding measures more stringent than those normally required, since the inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure would create risk of substantial harm. Material contains additional instructions on what dissemination is permitted.

On May 22, 2008, Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein announced the establishment of the "Controlled Unclassified Information Office" (CUIO) within the National Archives and Records Administration. Weinstein also announced that William J. Bosanko, director of the Information Security Oversight Office, would head up this newly formed office.

Coalition Endorses Electronic Messages Preservation

In a June 13, 2008, letter to Representative Henry A. Waxman, chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, the National Coalition for History endorsed the "Electronic Message Preservation Act" (H.R. 5811, H. Rept. 110-709). The bill would direct the National Archives and Records Administration to establish standards for the capture, management, preservation and retrieval of federal agency and presidential electronic messages that are records in an electronic format.

NARA would have 18 months to promulgate the regulations to implement the bill's requirements. Federal agencies and the White House would then have no more than four years to comply. NARA would then be required to report to Congress on White House and federal agency compliance.

There would be an additional requirement for presidential records. One year following the completion of a president's term in office, NARA would be required to report to Congress on the status of the transition of that president's records into his or her archival depository. ❖



MILLIONS MORE AVAILABLE The National Archives and Records Administration and The Generations Network, Inc., parent company of Ancestry.com, signed an agreement May 20 that makes millions of historical records more easily available to the American public. The agreement will allow Ancestry.com technicians and scanning machines at NARA to perform ongoing digitization of historical content that includes immigration, birth, marriage, death, and military records. The initial collections to be worked on under the new agreement include INS Passenger and Crew Arrival and Departure Lists from 1897 to 1958 and Death Notices of U.S. Citizens Abroad from 1835 to 1974, which have not been available to the public outside of NARA research rooms before now. *At left:* Tim Sullivan, CEO of Ancestry.com, and Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein, sign the agreement at the National Archives.



Museum Directors Agree on Antiquities Guidelines

Responding to a series of embarrassments in which major museums have had to return ancient artifacts obtained under questionable circumstances, America's art museum directors have adopted stronger guidelines for antiquities acquisitions—including honoring a 1970 U.N. declaration aimed at keeping relics in their homelands.

The new guidelines were adopted June 3 in Detroit at the annual meeting of the Association of Art Museum Directors and replace ones in effect since 2004. Besides advising museums not to touch works dug up after November 1970, when the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) issued rules against looting, the guidelines call for photographs and written documentation of all newly acquired antiquities to be posted on the art museum group's website at www.aamd.org.

When conclusive evidence is lacking despite "a rigorous effort," the guidelines say, museums should balance the risks of embarrassment and financial loss against the educational and art-preservation benefits of owning a work whose origins remain gray.

Museum values have been called into question by highly publicized controversies such as the claims against the J. Paul Getty Museum, including Italy's prosecution of the museum's

former antiquities curator, Marion True. Lands of origin have argued not only that some of the works in foreign museums represent a stolen patrimony, but also that they are best understood and appreciated in their home surroundings. Also, archaeologists are concerned that by collecting ancient art, museums risk fueling looting that ruins dig sites.

—*Los Angeles Times*

Former Virginia Archivist Pleads Guilty to Museum Theft

A former archivist with The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia, pleaded guilty June 10 to three felonies related to the theft and sale of museum property on eBay. Lester F. Weber, 46, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to mail fraud, theft, and filing a false tax return. He is scheduled to be sentenced Nov. 7, 2008. Weber and his wife were arrested in February and charged with more than two dozen counts. According to the indictment, the couple sold nearly 1,500 museum items, receiving \$162,959 from buyers across the country. Weber worked as a museum archivist from 2000 to 2006 and was the director of archives for the last six months of his employment. He was fired after being confronted by museum officials about the thefts.

—*The Virginian-Pilot*

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Grateful Dead Sends Band's Archives to UC Santa Cruz

It started with these words in 1971: "Dead Freaks Unite. Who are you? Where are you? How are you?" Printed with a mailing address on a Grateful Dead album sleeve, they were a call to Deadheads, the band's cult-like followers, to join the group's psychedelic fan club, which later mushroomed to more than 100,000 members.

Now, the tons of letters, original artwork, photographs, press clips and everything else that flooded into the post office over the next three decades are being given to archivists at the University of California, Santa Cruz. The university plans to create a room in its main library called "Dead Central" that will be open to scholars and the public, said Christine Bunting, head of special collections. The school will also digitize as much of the archives as possible and make it available for free on the Internet.

"We discovered a new land, a new place, and these folks are the cartographers and are going to map it out," said Bob Weir, the band's guitarist, referring to the university's archivists. Until now, the Dead's memorabilia was cared for by the band's archivist, Eileen Law, who for years kept it in a small Victorian house in San Rafael, Calif., that once served as the band's headquarters. Law, who started working for the band in 1971, said she is relieved these pieces of history she guarded for so long will be preserved. "Once we set up that P.O. Box in 1971, the mail just started pouring in . . . and it never really stopped," Law said.

—San Jose Mercury News

MBLC's Emergency Program Wins Award

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) has won the 2008 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the

Preservation and Care of Collections, given jointly by the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Heritage Preservation. The awards committee commended the MBLC's Emergency Assistance Program and its work with

the Northeast Document Conservation Center to develop *dPlan: The Online Disaster Planning Tool*. The MBLC also works with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to emphasize the need to include cultural resources in emergency preparedness activities at the local, regional, and state levels.

—Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners



Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, preservation specialist for the MBLC, conducts a workshop on disaster preparation.

NYU to Integrate New Media in Curriculum

The Archives and Public History Program at New York University (NYU) in Manhattan has received a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) for its "Digital History Across the Curriculum" initiative. The grant to NYU constitutes the only award made this year in the agency's new "professional development" initiative. The \$83,000 award will enable the program to develop courses and educational offerings that fully incorporate new media. The NHPRC anticipates that this program will serve as a model for other educators in the archival, documentary editing, and public history communities. Under the grant, the program will also work with archival and public history institutions in the New York area to create digital history internships for NYU students.

—New York University

University Launches Online Mapping Tool

"Mapping Penn: Land Acquisitions, 1870–2007" is the name of an interactive, online, GIS database recently launched by the University Archives and Records Center of the University of Pennsylvania. It contains records of real estate purchases in the University City section of Philadelphia and was made possible by reviewing real estate files and acquiring the original deeds to all properties currently owned by the university, which were merged with historical records previously transferred to the school. The guide to the collection can be found at <http://www.archives.upenn.edu/faids/uph/uph500.html>. The online mapping and reporting tools can be used to focus on a specific lot, name, year, or address. Users are able to create maps, reports, and queries. It is available to the public at: <http://venus.cml.upenn.edu/MappingPenn/>.

—University of Pennsylvania

Evaluation Toolkits for University Archives Available

The Archival Metrics Project has created five user-based evaluation toolkits for use by college and university archives and special collections. These toolkits were created by Elizabeth Yakel and Aprille McKay of the University of Michigan, Wendy Duff and Joan Cherry of the University of Toronto, and Helen Tibbo of the University of North Carolina, with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

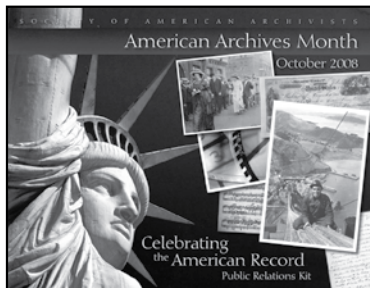
The five toolkits were developed for: 1) onsite users of the reading room; 2) students who have attended an orientation session; 3) instructors who use the archives for teaching; 4) online users of the website; and, 5) online users of finding aids. The toolkits include the questionnaire, instructions for administering the instrument, instructions and example spreadsheets for analyzing the results, and a sample report. They are available for free at <http://archivalmetrics.org> and feedback is welcome.

—University of Michigan

Around SAA . . .

Celebrate Your Archives and Enter the "Picture This!" Contest

October is American Archives Month and the 2008 American Archives Month Public Relations Kit created by SAA provides basic materials to help archivists make their archives program more visible and appreciated. "Celebrating the American Record" is this year's theme and the "Picture This!" Contest will award \$250 to each individual or archives who submits the best idea, best campaign, or best poster that promotes public awareness about the profession. Entries must be received by Friday, July 25, 2008. For specific details on contest rules, go to: http://www.archivists.org/archivesmonth/AAM2008/2008_AAM_Kit.pdf



The PR kit includes ideas to reach out to the community, tips to develop a communication plan, talking points on the value of archives, and easy steps to obtain media coverage. It was mailed to members in early June and can also be downloaded by section in PDFs at <http://www.archivists.org/archives-month/index.asp>

New Email Addresses Put Members in Contact with SAA

You can now contact SAA online using several new email addresses: conference@archivists.org: for general information about SAA's Annual Meeting; servicecenter@archivists.org: for questions regarding member dues, registrations, subscriptions, and book orders; membership@archivists.org: for general information about membership and address changes; education@archivists.org: for general information about continuing education programs; and info@archivists.org: for all other inquiries not noted above.

School's Out But College Archives Book Is In!

College and University Archives: Reading in Theory and Practice, edited by Christopher Prom and Ellen Swain of the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, offers 13 essays that provide commentary and analysis for those working as archivists in academia. Published in June by SAA, the 360-page book is available in soft cover for a member price of \$39.95 (list \$54.95). Order online at www.archivists.org/catalog.



Free Download of Archival Classic by Jenkinson

A digital version of the 1922 edition of *A Manual of Archive Administration, Including the Problems of War Archives and Archive Making*, by Sir Hilary Jenkinson, is available courtesy of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. This is perhaps the most famous work produced by British archivist and theorist Jenkinson, who speaks with great passion about many concerns that continue to reverberate today in the worldwide archives community. You can find the download at: <http://www.archivists.org/catalog/pubDetail.asp?objectID=2385>.

New Policies on Workshop Development

SAA's Committee on Education has revised its policies on workshop development. Past calls for workshop proposals were issued before the annual meeting, with a submission deadline in October. Details of the revised policy include the following. The committee will:

- Accept proposals for new workshops and other continuing education activities on an **ongoing basis**. The deadline for proposals for Pre-Conference Workshops will be early October.
- Seek input from appropriate Sections and Roundtables about content, format, and potential instructors for identified continuing education needs.
- Place the Proposal Evaluation Form and guidelines for an ideal proposal on its web page to encourage submissions with sufficient content for effective evaluation by the Education Committee.
- Offer a "Train the Trainer" course in conjunction with each SAA Annual Meeting, designed to help instructors (and potential instructors) enhance their teaching skills specific to continuing education for adults.

SAA encourages potential workshop developers and instructors to contact the Education office at 312-606-0722 with questions.

A Beginner's Guide to Metadata!

What is metadata? Where does it come from? What does it look like? How do you choose "the right" schema? What does it mean to map, expose, and repurpose metadata? These questions and more are addressed by Jessica Branco Colati and Gregory C. Colati in *A Beginner's Guide to Metadata*, a CD containing their 90-minute web seminar presentation on June 6, 2008, and sponsored by SAA. The CD is available to SAA members for \$145 (list \$195). Order online at www.archivists.org/catalog (click on CDs). ❖

Have You Got a Book in You?

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Publications Board of the Society of American Archivists invites proposals from interested authors for a new book that addresses the following theme:

WEB 2.0

The book may constitute a single-author treatment that synthesizes this topic, or a multi-author, edited volume that brings together a variety of contributors and perspectives.

New scholarship and original contributions are especially encouraged.

The prospectus should contain the following elements:

- Vision and scope of the publication;
- Estimated format and length;
- Annotated outline or table of contents;
- Intended audience and potential market;
- Brief literature review that contextualizes the proposed book;
- Prospective value to the profession;
- Possibilities for co-sponsorship or outside financial support;
- Extent of graphics and illustrations;
- Curriculum vitae for all authors and editors; and
- Project timeline.

Proposals should be submitted by October 30, 2008, to SAA Editor of Print and Electronic Publications, Peter J. Wosh at pw1@nyu.edu.



SAA—your partner in publishing

A collage of images representing various types of records and information. It includes stacks of books, newspapers (one labeled 'EL TIEMPO'), a person working at a desk, a computer monitor displaying a chart, and several CD-ROMs. The text 'library materials', 'archival collections', and 'electronic and paper records' is overlaid on the images. At the bottom, the text 'ONE SYSTEM TO MANAGE THEM ALL!' is written in large, bold, white letters.

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Oberlin College Archivist **ROLAND M. BAUMANN** has been recognized by the Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA) for spearheading a fundraising campaign for the college. Baumann was awarded the SOA Merit Award at the society's spring meeting. He was honored for his effort to create the Oberlin Archives Endowed Fund for Preservation and Digital Access, raising approximately \$530,000.

LIZ BISHOFF has joined the Bibliographical Center for Research (BCR) in Aurora, Colorado, as the director of Digital and Preservation Services. Bishoff was the first executive director of the Collaborative Digitization Program, which has merged with the BCR. It was then known as the Colorado Digitization Project.



JUDY ALLEN DODSON has been awarded the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Minority Students by the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC). Dodson is an administrative support associate for the Special Collections Research Center at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

The award is a scholarship of \$750 and a one-year complimentary membership to MAC.



BETH ANN KOELSCH has been appointed curator of the Women Veterans Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Koelsch previously worked as a project archivist at the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture at Duke University.



MARY C. LaFOGG retired from the Manuscripts and Archives Department at the Yale University Library on March 31, 2008, after 35 years of service. She was the head of public services, as well as reader services, before becoming the chief collections management archivist. LaFogg managed the department's facilities and was an integral member of a team that designed and implemented Yale's Library Shelving Facility. She was also known as a mentor of professional and para-professional staff.



DIANE PUGH has been promoted to Manager of Preservation Projects for the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) in Chicago. Pugh joined the ATLA in 2002. She has held previous positions with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Gerber/Hart Library, and the Chicago History Museum.

In Memoriam



JUDI HOFFMAN-BASHANT, 46, died May 24, 2008, of cancer at her home in Glade Park, Colorado. Those who worked with Hoffman-Bashant fondly recall her exuberant, slightly wacky spirit and incredible zest for life. She was truly one-of-a-kind who will be greatly missed.

After graduate studies at the University of Texas, and a stint at the Archives of Factual Film at Iowa State University, Hoffman-Bashant worked for the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division (MBRS) at the Library of Congress from 1993 to 1999. She began as the coordinating cataloger for the National Moving Image Database (NAMID) and soon became one of the key persons responsible for the National Digital Library's first online moving image and recorded sound projects: Edison, Westinghouse Works, American Variety Stage, Spanish-American War in Motion Pictures, and Origins of American Animation. Judi is one of the authors of the *Moving Image Genre-form Guide* and chaired the SAA Visual Materials Cataloging and Access Roundtable in 1999–2000.

Hoffman-Bashant moved to Denver in 1999 to take a position with the Colorado Digitization Project. This brought her near to family, including her father, who had been diagnosed with cancer. Just before she was scheduled to begin the new job, her mother was diagnosed with cancer, too, and Hoffman-Bashant moved back to Grand Junction, Colorado, to take care of her parents.

Anyone wishing to honor Hoffman-Bashant's memory may do so in any of the following ways: make a contribution in her name to the American Cancer Society or to Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado; and/or participate in the American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life.

— *The Library of Congress*

CHARLES EDWARD LEE, 90, a former historic preservation officer for South Carolina and director of its Archives and History Department, died May 30, 2008. Lee, a native of Asheville, North Carolina, began his career in 1946, teaching history at his alma mater, the University of South Carolina. In the following decade, Lee established himself in the publishing industry as an editor at USC Press and the *Journal of Modern American History*. In 1961, he became director of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Eight years later, Lee was appointed the State Historic Preservation Officer. Lee's work as an archivist and historian was widely recognized. He served as a consultant for the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings and, in 1972, was elected president of the Society of American Archivists. His achievements in the field of historic preservation were celebrated in 1979, when he was honored with the Conservation Service Award by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

—*The [Charleston] Post and Courier*

Prevail Archives

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In the fall of 2008, the University Libraries will move the digital files to a new content management system at Virginia Tech. We are currently exploring other methods of access to the collection, through organizing exhibits, creating instructional sessions, and generating publicity about the Prevail Archives.

Reflections and Responsibility

While some moments can define us, we have the power to define those moments. Archives, special collections, libraries, and museums play an important role in documenting historically significant tragedies. But there are a number of factors to consider when faced with such a complex responsibility.

When people and families are involved, there are often prolonged legal issues. We must also remember that the people (whether faculty, staff, students, or volunteers) working with emotionally charged material can be greatly affected by what they are dealing with on a daily basis. It is imperative to offer counseling services and flexibility from the beginning and throughout the project.

Traumatic events result in extensive press coverage. Most institutions prefer that upper administration handle official announcements and press releases, but librarians and archivists often find themselves as a point of contact for reporters. Prepare for the onslaught and do not feel obligated to be part of EVERY media opportunity. This was an important principle to follow during the preparation for the first anniversary of 4/16.

Rely on archival colleagues and do not feel afraid to ask for advice. Even if our voices are small in the crowd of administrators, archivists with a professionally endorsed plan stand a strong chance of being heard. At the same time, taking a collaborative approach with a variety of stakeholders is a better way to capture the falling sands.

Finally, it is important to build collections in a reasonable manner and think in manageable phases. The Prevail Archives could easily be expanded into other realms, but the initial task at hand—arranging, describing, and providing access to 800 linear feet of condolence material—remains to be finished. Realistic goals, which balance resources with effective documentation, allow collections to grow without becoming overwhelming.

We welcome the challenge of building and maintaining such a unique collection at Virginia Tech, but are saddened that other institutions, such as Northern Illinois University, will follow in our archival footsteps after yet another senseless tragedy. We hope that we can provide a model for those who need it, and by sharing our story and the stories of those touched by 4/16 we can help others heal.

You can find the home page of the memorial archive at <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/prevail>. ❖

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- EAD for import into other systems
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Strolling San Francisco

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Photo: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library



The Palace of Fine Arts during the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915. The Palace has recently been repainted in its original colors and is currently being renovated for seismic strengthening and dome repair.

buildings left standing after the fair closed. Renowned Bay Area architect Bernard Maybeck created the building that some considered the most beautiful at the exhibition. Designed to house an art gallery during the exhibition, the building resembles a romantic ruin, consisting of 30 Corinthian columns and a 1,100-foot rotunda that stretches 162 feet high. The building's reflection in the surrounding lagoon furthers its pensive, dreamy air; the exterior remains a popular site for wedding pictures to this day.

Currently, the Palace is under renovation (<http://www.lovethepalace.org>) and may be covered by scaffolding during the SAA meeting. The building has recently been repainted in the original color scheme created by Jules Guerin in 1915, to be followed by seismic strengthening and dome repair. The last touch will be to return the weeping maidens to the top of each column. The Palace currently houses the Exploratorium, one of the premier science museums in the country, which will be moving to a new home when the restoration work is complete (see <http://www.exploratorium.edu/>).

Coit Memorial Tower, opened in 1934, is the most recent San Francisco building to qualify for the National Register of Historical Places (January 2008). Located at 1 Telegraph Hill Boulevard in Pioneer Park, above the North Beach neighborhood, this 210-foot Art Deco tower is built of fluted reinforced concrete and was designed and built by architects Arthur Brown, Jr., and Henry Howard. The inside of the tower is adorned by murals of California life created by twenty-five artists of the Public Works Art Project (PWAP), a precursor to the Works Progress Administration. Some of the notable artists include John Langley Howard, Ralph Stackpole, Bernard B. Zakheim, and Victor Arnautoff. The building qualified as

a national landmark because of the significance of the art, and the murals, influenced by the work of Diego Rivera, offer a window into the politics and controversies of 1930s San Francisco. Scenes of farmers, urban workers, and the teeming life on the streets of the city, with oblique references to communism and socialism, caused a stir with authorities during the days of the violent 1934 strike. A hammer-and-sickle image was ordered removed before the building was opened to the public. The building of Coit Tower was made possible through the generosity of Lillie Hitchcock Coit, an eccentric society matron who liked to drink, gamble, and dress as a man, particularly in the uniform of her beloved firefighters.

For those with a more literary bent, a tour of streets named for San Francisco writers might be in order. According to the book, *Names of 12 San Francisco Streets Changed to Honor Authors and Artists* (San Francisco: City Lights Books, 1989), "On January 25, 1988, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors . . . approved a proposal by Lawrence Ferlinghetti and City Lights Books to rename twelve San Francisco streets after famous authors and artists who had lived and worked in the city. Mostly alleys or cul-de-sacs, streets were named after Ambrose Bierce, Beniamino Bufano, Richard Henry Dana, Isadora Duncan, Dashiell Hammett, Bob Kaufman, Jack Kerouac, Jack London, Frank Norris, Kenneth Rexroth, William Saroyan, and Mary Twain." Most of these street signs are located downtown or in the adjacent North Beach neighborhood and can be covered during an afternoon walk.

San Francisco's majestic **City Hall**, built in 1915 by Brown and Bakewell, and restored to its full glory in 1999, consists of a 400-foot exterior of Sierra granite, topped by a 307-foot dome covered with gold leaf. The most recent statue to be installed in the marble-filled interior, in April 2008, is a depiction of Harvey Milk, the gay San Francisco supervisor who was slain in the building in 1978 along with Mayor George Moscone. Milk would be pleased to see the hundreds of gay and lesbian marriages now taking place in the same building.

Across the street from City Hall on Van Ness Avenue, and likewise designed by Arthur Brown, Jr., sits the **War Memorial Building** complex, where the formation of the United Nations occurred in 1945, as well as the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty in 1951. **AT&T Park**, an old-fashioned stadium that opened in 2000 as the new home of the San Francisco Giant's baseball team, is part of the emerging South Beach neighborhood.

So many buildings, so little time! Enjoy any one of these old *and* new icons when you come to San Francisco for the SAA Annual Meeting. One other thing: there's nothing like a walk across the sublime **Golden Gate Bridge**, one of the world's largest suspension bridges, and a triumph of engineering and design. ❖

President's Message

continued from page 3

Canadian archivist Barbara Craig: "A vision of what we are about in archival work, and what we seek to do and achieve, by its very nature, is a poetic statement, not a bureaucratic marching order for the day."⁸ And then I came upon an essay by a librarian in which he argued that his profession (and I would say ours as well) is about more than providing information, it is also about offering "connections to *imagination* and *inspiration* to our customers."⁹ To provide imagination and inspiration requires us to have them—as well as poetry and art—as part of our identity.

At first blush these mushy terms—poetic, art, imagination, inspiration—may seem applicable, if at all, only to collecting archivists, and inapplicable to those of us who, as institutional archivists, may be focused primarily on documenting more prosaic organizational administrative records, but I don't think it truly is. Even the concept of accountability cannot be an objective "bureaucratic marching order"—there is interpretation to be made, implications to ponder, decisions to confront, creativity to employ. "Accountability" is as subjective a concept as most, with certain room for art or poetry or inspiration.

And while it is important that we maintain "space for imagination, for connection, for soul,"¹⁰ as Verne Harris has put it, this is not simply a call for investing our everyday work—processing perhaps—with creativity, though we certainly could use a good deal of that. This call for poetry, art, and imagination is in large part a call for thinking beyond our daily work. We should follow Rand Jimerson's advice "to confront the 'why?' questions in the field," confronting "the social, intellectual, and political issues arising from archival endeavors."¹¹ It is by considering meaning, purpose, and goals that we escape the constraints of bureaucratic marching orders, and an unwanted (am I presuming too much?) identity as apparatchiks.

So, who in the blazes are we, anyhow? I will try to sketch my vision and understanding of our identity, mission, and purpose—along with additional reflections on our most important personal characteristics—when I see you all in San Francisco this August.

For this, my last column, I must take a few words to express my thanks to and admiration of Nancy Beaumont for her energetic, thoughtful, and dedicated leadership of the Society. No president of SAA can accomplish much without Nancy's planning, administration, and vision. My sincere thanks, too, to the rest of the SAA staff—a talented, devoted, and mission-driven group. Between them they have overseen, in a relatively few years, a steady increase in membership, expansion and improvement of our educational offerings, consistently fine publications, improved web and list services, and a comfortably balanced budget. It has been a pleasure working with everyone at the SAA office.

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- 1 Ezra Pound (1885–1972), U.S. poet, critic. Letter, April 21, 1913, to Pound's fiancée (later wife) Dorothy Shakespear. *Ezra Pound and Dorothy Shakespear: Their Letters 1909–1914*, eds. Omar Pound and A. Walton Litz (1985). The Columbia World of Quotations. 1996. Number 45117.
- 2 Richard J. Cox, "Letter to the Editor," *American Archivist* 68:1 (2005): 10.
- 3 Clause five states "Librarians must distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of an institution or professional body," suggesting that personal philosophies are subordinate to the attitudes and mission of their institution. For an interesting critique and analysis of the ALA ethics code, see Guy A. Marco, "Ethics for Librarians: A Narrow View," *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science* 28:1 (March 1996): 33–38
- 4 But is it possible or desirable for individual archivists and archives to have missions seemingly at variance with the profession's overall mission?
- 5 Jeannette A. Bastian, "Taking Custody, Giving Access: A Postcustodial Role for a New Century," *Archivaria* 53 (Spring 2002): 92.
- 6 Robert Havighurst (20th century), U.S. psychologist. Quoted in *The Learning Child*, "Beyond the Home to School and Community," by Dorothy H. Cohen (1972). *The Columbia World of Quotations*. 1996. Number 27064.
- 7 Mark A. Greene, "Not Magic, not Science, but Art: Comment on 'Archival Appraisal Alchemy'" (Response to Richard Cox), *Choices and Challenges, Collecting by Museums and Archives*, Dearborn, MI, November 1–3, 2002; available on the web at <http://www.hfmgv.org/research/publications/symposium2002/papers/greene.asp>
- 8 Barbara Craig, "The Archivist as Planner and Poet: Thoughts on the Larger Issues of Appraisal for Acquisition," *Archivaria* 52 (Fall 2001), p. 179–180. Emphasis added.
- 9 David Dowell, "The 'i' in Libraries," *American Libraries* (January/February 2008): 42.
- 10 Verne Harris, "Claiming Less, Delivering More: A Critique of Positivist Formulations on Archives in South Africa," *Archivaria* 44 (Fall 1997): 140.
- 11 Randall Jimerson, "Prospectus: *Archives and Society: Memory, Documentation, and Social Justice*" (working title).

Leadership

continued from page 12

Dearstyne, who is an adjunct professor for the College of Information Studies at the University of Maryland, provided the following synopsis of the publication.

The book includes chapters by leading archives program directors, including James Fogerty, Mark A. Greene, Edie Hedlin, Tanya Marshall, Philip Mooney, Greg Sanford, Leon Stout, and Christine Ward. In addition, Eugenia K. Brumm, Diane Carlisle, and Carol E.B. Choksy add insights from the records management perspective, and two British writers, Peter Emmerson and Kelvin Smith, provide reflections from their work at Barclays Bank and the National Archives of the United Kingdom.

The writers describe the ingredients that make programs successful, including development strategies, techniques of leadership and management, tailoring the program to meet institutional needs, securing budgetary resources, measurement, communication, and other techniques and tools.

According to Dearstyne, summarizing the key leadership insights from this diverse, talented, experienced group of leaders was a challenge! The following emerged as the most prominent themes in the book:

- **Leadership is essential for archives and records program success.** Several writers explore this issue, from various perspectives. SAA President Mark A. Greene, director of the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming, drew on experience at several institutions and noted that "setting vision, managing change, and having a clear, confident decision-making style" are essential. "Leadership can be learned," he reminds us, "just as it can be practiced through one's career no matter where in a hierarchy one may be situated."
- **Leaders align the records or archives program with institutional priorities and demonstrate the contribution it makes.** Philip Mooney, director of the Archives Department at the Coca-Cola Company, discusses incentives for the establishment and maintenance of corporate archival programs and emphasizes "selling history to management . . . the concept of maintaining a historical records collection must be visibly communicated to all levels of the organization."

James Fogerty, drawing on his long experience at the Minnesota State Historical Society, emphasizes the advantages of identifying institutional goals and priorities. "The success of any unit—including archives—will hinge on the ability of its managers to correctly identify and serve the needs and objectives of the parent entity."
- **Dealing with change is a constant challenge, which may be an opportunity, problem, or some of each.** Working with influential decision-makers and customers in a partnership mode can provide strategic leverage for advancing one's program. Greg Sanford and Tanya Marshall describe

the long process of change at the Vermont State Archives, culminating in legislative action to consolidate archives and records management. "Understanding the higher goals of archival management encouraged risk-taking" that paid off. New York State Archivist Christine Ward discusses adapting to change in a complicated setting and capitalizing on new opportunities, such as new educational policies that support classroom use of historical materials.

- **Successful leaders build networks of champions, allies, and supporters.** As the former director of the Smithsonian Institution Archives, Edie Hedlin's chapter discusses multiple leadership and development strategies, including supporting the goals of the parent organization, defining and constantly articulating the mission, developing careful plans and priorities, and focusing on staff productivity. "Seek and work with allies to advance your program . . . it is politically astute for the archives to be viewed as supportive of the goals of others," she explains, but cautions that archival programs need to build alliances carefully. "Look for alliances that support the needs of others without undermining the basic work of the archives."
- **Measuring "customer satisfaction" and tailoring your services to customers are major challenges.** This theme emerges in most of the chapters. Records management consultant Eugenia K. Brumm notes the need for leaders to "educate" people in their institutions about the need for, and advantages of, the work we do. "Promoting awareness of archives" using multiple strategies and approaches is one of the central messages that Lee Stout conveys.
- **Developing employees' capacities and setting them up for success are part of leaders' responsibilities.** Carol E.B. Choksy, CEO of IRAD Strategic Consulting Inc., discusses training and development for entry and mid-level staff members. "Managers should work with employees on their development programs, including discussing possible projects, assignments, and development opportunities." Management needs to bring out the best in people and encourage leadership skills. "Employee development also requires celebration and recognition of small successes like an improvement in performance by both the employee and the department."

* * *

With the fields of records management and information technology colliding at a hard-to-match pace, archivists must ensure they have what they need to do their job the right way. For this, leadership skills that help them to communicate and work with others effectively are a must-have. Start with a summertime read or a strategy session at the annual meeting, and you just might find yourself the next one seated at the table. ❖

Council

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reached at doylenm@uwm.edu. To access the Archives website, go to <http://www.uwm.edu/Library/arch/find-aids/uwmmss172/index.html>.)

Leon Miller, of Tulane University Library Special Collections, was elected to serve as the Council members' representative on the Executive Committee. Second-year Council members Rebecca Hankins (Cushing Memorial Library, Texas A&M University) and Nancy Lenoil (California State Archives) will serve on the 2008-2009 Nominating Committee.

In addition, Council members had lively discussions about how SAA can use Web 2.0 technologies to enhance member communication and activity; how the organization might increase its presence on advocacy issues; and how to enhance member participation in SAA elections.

Over a working lunch on May 30, Kathleen Williams, the newly appointed executive director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, reviewed with Council members the status of NHPRC priorities and activities and provided an update on the agency's budget and reauthorization legislation.

Convening as the Foundation Board of Directors, the group approved three motions addressing funding issues and the possible development of an endowment fund. Emphasized throughout the Board's discussion was the need to establish one or more minority scholarships that are substantial and sustainable. Reports on these issues will be presented to the Board by August 2008.

Minutes of the Council and Foundation Board meetings will be posted on the SAA website within 60 days of the meeting. To view all Council minutes, go to <http://www.archivists.org/governance/minutes/index.asp>. (From the home page, click on "About Us" and then "Reports and Meeting Minutes.")

The SAA Council and the SAA Foundation Board of Directors will meet again from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 25, immediately preceding ARCHIVES 2008 in San Francisco. If you have recommendations, requests, or concerns to bring to the Council's attention, contact SAA President Mark Greene (mgreene@uwyo.edu) or Executive Director Nancy Beaumont (nbeaumont@archivists.org) for information about how to submit your ideas or materials for consideration by the Council. Information must be received by July 30 in order to be considered at the August 2008 meeting. ❖

Do you have a photo or story
you'd like to see in the next issue of
Archival Outlook? Send to: Editorial/Production
Assistant Helen Janousek at hjanousek@archivists.org.
SAA welcomes your comments and suggestions.

PAHR Bill Introduced in Congress

On May 14, 2008, new legislation to preserve the American historical record was introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressmen Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Chris Cannon (R-UT).

H.R. 6056, the Partnership for the American Historical Record (PAHR), has now been referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The bill proposes expanding federal support for state and local archival records. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) would administer the program. The legislation authorizes \$50 million a year for five years for the initiative. Base funding would be provided to each state or territory, with the remainder of funding distributed using a population/area-based formula. A 50 percent match for any funding awards would be required of state and local partners.

You can ask your member of Congress to sponsor the bill. An easy way to do so can be found on the Humanities Advocacy Network's website at http://www.humanitiesadvocacy.org/action_ctr.html. The site allows you to compose an e-mail message to send to your House Representative. You can find more details on the proposed legislation, including estimates of how much funding your state could receive and a draft letter you can customize, on SAA's website at <http://www.archivists.org/pahr/index.asp>

PAHR is a collaboration of the Council of State Archivists, the Society of American Archivists, and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators. The original co-sponsors for the bill are: Sanford Bishop (GA), Joseph Crowley (NY), Eliot Engel (NY), Steve Israel (NY), Carolyn Maloney, (NY), Jim McDermott (WA), James McGovern (MA), John McHugh (NY), Jerrold Nadler, (NY), and Edolphus Towns (NY). ❖

Senate

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management by federal agencies, to be a stronger advocate for more resources from the administration and Congress, and NARA's deference and timidity towards the White House regarding preserving presidential records.

There was complete consensus among the panelists of the need to reform the classification and declassification process to reduce the amount of material that is over-classified initially so as to reduce backlogs in the future.

Henderson and Sherwin spoke against the elimination of the NHPRC as called for in the administration's fiscal year 2009 budget. They urged Congress to provide the fully authorized amount of \$10 million this year, plus \$2 million for administrative costs. They also called for the passage of a bill to reauthorize the NHPRC for the next five fiscal years at \$20 million per-year.

To read Henderson's full testimony, go to:
<http://hsgac.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?Fuseaction=Hearings.Detail&HearingID=ad3cffc2-8768-4952-8cfb-2f62188f39c8>. ❖

—National Coalition for History

Call for SESSION PROPOSALS

SUSTAINABLE ARCHIVES / AUSTIN 2009

Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the Council of State Archivists

Austin, Texas ★ August 11 – 16, 2009

The 2009 Annual Meeting is being held in a city that marches to a different drummer. Austin is Texas the way the locals like it: fresh, innovative, progressive, and quirky—all that and a vibrant self identity that attracts new residents by its undisguised confidence. The confluence of southwestern geography and modern urban community makes this Joint Annual Meeting of SAA and CoSA, August 11–16, 2009, an event that you shouldn't miss!

Managing change, controlling growth, and nourishing inclusive lifestyles are mainstays of the Austin frame of mind. Citizens are also mindful of global interests and the need for sustainability at home, at work, and in the context of the various environments that support them. Sustainability is about maximizing value and finding underutilized potential in the human and material resources that are essential to our work and livelihood.

Sustainability is also a framing concept for conversations that archivists are having within the profession and with their resource allocators: How to manage change now, how to grow our programs to meet complex information ecologies, and how to nourish ourselves professionally to thrive in the unfolding information environment. Today's archival holdings exist within environments in which recorded information is swiftly becoming more compressed, wired, and remote. Organizations are constantly redesigning their communications infrastructure to stay in sync with external change while preserving their essential mission and values.

Archivists must be a creative part of the capacity-building process if we are to remain relevant. Immersed in the record creating environment, archivists bring a wide-angle lens of insight to new information systems. Archivists have learned to improvise and practice our art and craft, even when the tools are oddly unfamiliar and the solutions are mostly untested. We increasingly find ourselves

balancing interim measures with the search for long-term solutions to preserve recorded information in all formats across the continuum. Scaling and applying today's promising solutions requires intuition and a willingness to take risks. A certain *bricolage* kicks in and merges with the solid theory and methodologies that are a baseline resource for the archival enterprise.

SUSTAINABLE ARCHIVES / AUSTIN 2009 is an opportunity to explore the concept of sufficiency across all aspects of archival practice, theory, and visioning. Is there any one of us who is not trying to do it better, stretch resources over a wider playing field, or grow a new idea by borrowing from a colleague's seed bank of experience? What have we learned from the short- and mid-range strategies that enable us to reduce our processing backlog, maintain legacy archives, or acquire e records that might otherwise be permanently lost? Is archival activity simply more dynamic today than it ever has been, and what does that say about the kinds of leaders and practitioners we need to hone our professional edge?

SAA's 2009 Program Committee issues a call for session proposals that:

- ★ Address a range of problem-solving strategies, methods, and tools that offer evidence of our ability to sustain our archives and the archival community,
- ★ Meet our local and global responsibilities for archival preservation, and
- ★ Engage new technologies and social dynamics with confidence and creativity.

The Annual Meeting's organizing theme of sustainability serves as a broad guide. The Program Committee welcomes proposals on all new trends

Call for
Pre-Conference
Workshop Proposals
2009 SAA Annual Meeting in Austin

The Committee on Education of the Society of American Archivists invites submission of proposals for ½-day, one-day, or two-day Pre-Conference Programs held in conjunction with the Joint Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) in Austin, Texas, August 11–16, 2009. Proposals should build on or enhance SAA's current continuing education curriculum. Existing programs are listed in the SAA catalog at http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/course_catalog.asp.

Proposals for new education programs may be developed with specific groups in mind or for the broader SAA audience. Programs are presented in one of the following formats:

- **Workshop:** Intensive, problem-focused learning experience that actively involves up to 30 participants in identifying and analyzing problems and in developing and evaluating solutions.
- **Seminar:** Educational session in which 40+ participants obtain information from a knowledgeable resource person in a given content area, allowing time for questions, interaction, and discussion.

The Committee welcomes proposals from archivists as well as professionals in related fields.

To submit a proposal, you can find the form and complete it online at www.archivists.org/conference. **Deadline: Postmarked no later than October 15, 2008,** and must include all supporting

materials required by the Committee on Education in order to be considered. Criteria for workshop material and what reviewers look for will be posted to the SAA website in early August. If you have questions, please contact us at education@archivists.org

Send your proposal(s) to: Solveig De Sutter, Director of Education, Society of American Archivists, 17 North State Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602-3315; fax: 312-606-0728; email: sdesutter@archivists.org.

and important research. One of our many goals is to reach a diverse membership with sessions that appeal to a range of attendees, including newcomers and veterans, arrangers and administrators, institutional archivists and specialists. Co-sponsorship of *SUSTAINABLE ARCHIVES / AUSTIN 2009* with the Council of State Archivists lends a special interest in exploiting our capital city venue to intersect with government archives and their impact on our lives as citizens and archivists. To avoid professional isolation, the Program Committee asks proposers to consider how the global perspective and the international archival context enrich the professional discussion.

Framing Proposals

Session proposals are welcome on any aspect of the archival enterprise, with special attention to program implementations, best practices, innovations, and solutions that enable us to test and reformulate our theoretical and methodological assumptions. Proposals will be evaluated on the

strength of the 75-word abstract, the completeness of the proposal, the diversity of the speakers and their experience, and attention to the meeting's theme or organizing goals. Session proposals that incorporate one or more of the following will be given special consideration:

- ★ Elements of the theme of sustainability in archival programs and practice.
- ★ The impact of government on archival enterprise in a pluralist society.
- ★ International voices.
- ★ SAA Section or Roundtable endorsements.
- ★ Content scaled to a variety of experience levels.

Proposals for the 2009 meeting will be due on October 8, 2008. Proposal forms and suggestions for how to craft a successful session are posted on the SAA website at: www.archivists.org/conference/.

**SAA EDUCATION CALENDAR****Electronic Records
Summer Camp**

August 4–8 • San Diego, CA

**Photography Rights, Archive
Management, and Permissions**

October 17 • Albany, NY

Encoded Archival Description

October 30–31 • Minneapolis, MN

**Association Archives—Managing
Your Institutional Memory**

October 30 • Washington, D.C.

Basic Electronic Records

November 3 • San Antonio, TX

**Financial Management
Basics for Archivists**

November 6 • Knoxville, TN

**Style Sheets for EAD: Delivering
Your Finding Aids on the Web**

November 6–7 • Riverside, CA

**Management of Cultural
Institutions**

November 7 • Knoxville, TN

**Implementing DAGS in Integrated
Content Management Systems:
Using the Archivists Toolkit™**January 15–16, 2009
New York, NY

For details or to register, visit www.archivists.org and click on Education. **Questions?** Contact us at education@archivists.org or 312-606-0722. We are continually planning and adding programs to our schedule; check the website periodically!

CALENDAR**July 21–27**

The 16th International Congress on Archives (ICA) will meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Congress' theme is "Archives, Governance and Development: Mapping Future Society." For more information, browse www.ica.org.

July 23–26

The National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators holds its 2008 annual meeting in Atlanta. Topic is "All Roads Lead to Records—Making the Journey Count." For more info, go to www.nagara.org.

August 7–9

Australian Society of Archivists' Annual Conference will be held in Perth, Western Australia. Theme: "Archives: Discovery and Exploration." For more information, go to: <http://www.archivists.org.au/2008-conference-perth>.

August 27

The Academy of Certified Archivists gives its 2008 Certification Exam in San Francisco, Calif.; Buffalo, New York; Nashville, Tenn; St. Louis, Mo.; and Salt Lake City, Utah. Go to the ACA website for more information: www.certifiedarchivists.org.

September 9–12

The American Association for State and Local History will hold its 2008 annual meeting in Rochester, New York. The theme is "Discovering the Power of Transformation" and featured speakers include Bernice Johnson Reagan, Lynn Sherr, and Allida Black. Go to www.aaslh.org for more information.

September 15–19

The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works will hold its 22nd International Congress in London on Conservation and Access. The program will examine the central role of conservation in the presentation and protection of the world's cultural heritage and explore the many ways that heritage professionals engage in this worldwide. Registration and details are available at www.iiconservation.org or contact Graham Voce at +44 (0)20 7839 5975.

September 23–24

"A Space Odyssey: Storage Strategies for Cultural Collections" will be presented by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia. The center brings experts in the fields of design, space planning, and environmental control and modification to speak about practical methods and

applications for enhancing storage spaces for cultural collections. For more information and to register, go to www.ccaha.org, call 215-545-0613 or email psoc@ccaaha.org.

September 29–30

The International Institute for Conservation The British Library hosts the International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects (iPRES 2008) in London. It is the fifth in a series of annual international conferences which bring together researchers and practitioners from around the world to explore the latest trends, innovations, thinking, and practice in digital preservation. The theme is "Joined Up and Working: Tools and Methods for Digital Preservation." Dame Lynne Brindley, CEO of the British Library, will open the conference. Registration and details are available at www.bl.uk/ipres2008/

October 19–24

The Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor is offering a digital preservation training program based on curriculum developed at Cornell University Libraries by Anne Kenney and Nancy McGovern. The workshop—"Digital Preservation Management: Short-Term Solutions for Long-Term Problems"—targets managers at organizations who are facing the digital preservation challenge. Registration opens August 1, 2008. For more information: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/dpm/workshops/fiveday.html>

November 7–8

2008 Fall Symposium of the Midwest Archives Conference in Lawrence, Kansas. Topic is "Digital Preservation." For more info, go to: <http://www.midwestarchives.org/2008Fall/>.

November 12–15

The Association of Moving Image Archivists holds its annual conference in Savannah, Georgia. For more info, go to: <http://www.ami-anet.org/>.

November 13–15

The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at The University of Texas, Austin is holding registration for the seventh Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium on "Creating a Usable Past: Writers, Archives and Institutions." Symposium information, including limited discounted student registration, is available at <http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/flair>.

November 14–15

The New England Archivists will hold their Fall Meeting at Simmons College in Boston. For more information, go to: www.newenglandarchivists.org.



FUNDING

The Council on Library and Information Resources

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) is creating a national program to identify and catalog hidden special collections and archives. The records and descriptions obtained through this effort will be accessible on the Web. The program is designed to overcome the pervasive lack of knowledge about special collections and archives held by libraries, archives, and cultural institutions and to make information about these materials accessible to teachers and scholars.

Institutions of higher education and cultural organizations that hold important collections that are difficult or impossible to locate through finding aids are invited to submit proposals for funding. CLIR will activate an online application tool in late June when the application period opens.

Application deadlines and decision dates will also be posted in late June. The typical size of a project grant will vary. Because the first round of grants will entail both the inauguration of a new approach to the hidden collections problem and a test of some basic assumptions, 2008 grants are expected to range from \$100,000 to \$500,000. Awards will have a three-year term. Each award recipient will be required to submit an annual report to the review panel.

For the purposes of this project, special collections are rare, often unique materials generally housed in secure, monitored environments. Archives are unique collections associated with a specific individual or organization. By not defining these terms prescriptively, we hope to encourage a process that is encompassing and revelatory. Go to www.clir.org/ for more information.

American Institute of Physics

The Center for the History of Physics announces grants to process Physics, Astronomy and Geophysics collections. Past recipients range from small archives to major science repositories in the U.S. and abroad. Grants are competitive and awarded annually. For more information, go to: www.aip.org/history/grants_archives.html. **Application deadline: August 1, 2008.**

The GRAMMY Foundation® Grant Program

The GRAMMY Foundation® Grant Program, generously funded by The Recording Academy®, is now accepting grant applications online. The Grant Program is in its 21st year and has awarded more than \$5 million to more than 200 noteworthy projects.

The Grant Program administers grants annually to organizations and individuals to support efforts that advance the archiving and preservation of the music and recorded sound heritage of the Americas for future generations, as well as scientific research projects related to the impact of music on the human condition. Recipients are determined based on criteria such as merit, uniqueness of project and the ability to accomplish intended goals

Recognizing the richness of collections held by individuals and organizations that may not have access to the expertise needed to create a preservation plan, last year the GRAMMY Foundation Grant Program expanded its granting categories to include planning grants for individuals and small- to mid-sized organizations. The planning process—which, for example, might include inventorying and stabilizing a collection—articulates the steps to be taken to ultimately archive recorded sound materials for future generations. The planning grant category provides funds for archiving consultants and experts and other resources for planning.

The GRAMMY Foundation has also opened up its granting in the area of scientific research to projects conducted as work toward an advanced degree. While projects still must demonstrate scientific rigor, the GRAMMY Foundation believes that this addition will open the program up to many more worthwhile projects undertaken by students at the graduate level.

To download an application or participate in the applicant conference call, scheduled for August 20, visit www.grammyfoundation.com/grants. **Application deadline: October 1, 2008.** Grant Program Contact: Kristin Murphy, The GRAMMY Foundation, phone 310-392-3777, e-mail kristinm@grammy.com

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) invites applications for its 2009–2010 Scholars in Residence Program, including applications for collaborative residencies. The Scholars in Residence Program provides support for up to eight weeks of full-time research and study in manuscript and/or artifact collections maintained by any PHMC facility, including the Pennsylvania State Archives, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, and 25 historic sites and museums in the state.

Collaborative residencies fund research that relates to the interpretive mission and advances

the goals of a PHMC program or facility, including the agency's historic sites and museums. The application must be filed jointly by the interested scholar and host program/facility. Residency programs are open to those conducting research on Pennsylvania history, including academic scholars, public sector professionals, independent scholars, graduate students, educators, writers, filmmakers, and others.

Residencies may be scheduled for up to eight weeks anytime from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010; stipends are awarded at the rate of \$375 per week. For a full description of the residency program and application materials, as well as information about Commission research collections, go to the PHMC web site: www.phmc.state.pa.us. You may also write: Scholars in Residence Program, Bureau of Archives and History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 350 North St., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0090; phone: 717-772-3257; or email: RA-PHMCscholars@state.pa.us.

Application deadline: January 9, 2009. Notification of awards will be made in March 2009.

Advertise Your Professional Opportunities Here!

Rate schedule

- 99¢ per word

SAA members receive a percentage discount:

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- 50% for Regular Institutional Members (or 49¢ per word)
- 60% for Sustaining Institutional Members (or 39¢ per word)

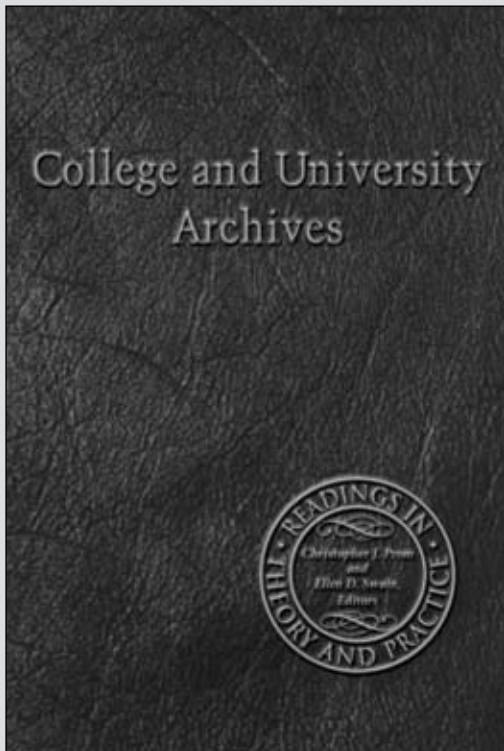
For more info on submission deadlines and editorial policies visit www.archivists.org and go to Publications, Advertising Opportunities. You can also e-mail jobs@archivists.org to place an online job ad. Job announcements can be submitted online at www.archivists.org/forms/jobs.asp.



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WELL SCHOOLED!

College and University Archives Readings in Theory and Practice

Christopher J. Prom and Ellen D. Swain, Editors

The 13 essays in this volume offer provocative commentary and analysis in the ways archivists might better document college and university campuses and serve users. Three intertwined themes run throughout the reader: the opportunities and challenges posed by ever-changing technology, the importance of cooperation and collaboration beyond the walls of the archives, and the necessity of a proactive approach in undertaking the academic archival enterprise. As the essays gathered here demonstrate, archivists can and must play an active role in documenting the character and history of their institutions by applying their talents to the challenges in this new century.

Society of American Archivists (June 2008)
Soft cover, 360 pp. • Product Code: BOOKSAA-0532
SAA members \$39.95 (List \$54.95)

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